the composition being prepared by dispersing in a binder resin a near-infrared-absorbing material(s) containing a diimmonium salt compound represented by the formula (1)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_1 \\
N^-R_2
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_1 \\
N^-R_2
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
2X^- & \cdots & (1) \\
R_7-N & & & \\
R_4
\end{array}$$

wherein R₁-R₈ are the same or different from each other and each represents hydrogen or alkyl having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, and X represents SbF₆, ClO₄, PF₆, NO₃ or halogen.--

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the communication mailed February 4, 2002, requesting a clean version of the replacement paragraph pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(ii). Applicants respectfully submit that the formal requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(i) are now satisfied. Entry of amendment and reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the present invention, as amended, is in condition for allowance and an early notification thereof being earnestly solicited.

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The Office is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees relevant to this filing to Deposit Account 11-0600. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any matter relating to the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date $\frac{2/8/02}{}$

Dianoosh Salehi Reg. No. 46,352

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace lines 1-3 of page 11, with the following:

--Preferably the amount of residual solvent(s) in a coating layer of the infrared absorption filter is 5.0 wt.% or less, the filter being prepared by depositing a composition on a substrate, the composition being prepared by dispersing in a binder resin a near-infrared-absorbing material(s) containing a diimmonium salt compound represented by the formula (1)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_{1} & & \\
R_{2} & & \\
R_{7} & & \\
R_{8} & & \\
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_{1} & & \\
N^{-} R_{2} & & \\
N^{-} R_{3} & & \\
R_{4} & & \\
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
N^{-} R_{3} & & \\
R_{4} & & \\
\end{array}$$

wherein R_1 - R_8 are the same or different from each other and each represents hydrogen or alkyl having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, and X represents SbF₆, ClO₄, PF₆, NO₃ or halogen.--

